

PLEADS FOR ADEQUATE PENSIONS FOR FIREMEN

Correspondent Declares Citizens Should Co-Operate in Bringing About Better System.

Cites Occasions When Lives Have Been Endangered to Save Property of Others.

To the Editor of The Star:

The half column in your paper of Christmas day headed "A Happy Christmas for Injured Firemen," was, no doubt, read by many with deep interest and tender sympathy. There was rightly in the hearts of each one of these men a real cause for happiness on Christmas day, even though it was spent in the confines of a hospital. Men, after all, appreciate life more when placed in a tight position, and none of us wishes a response of gratitude to be awakened in his life by force or narrow escapes. According to my knowledge of men in general, I would venture this statement, that the real cause for happiness among the injured men went far beyond the fact that they were not hurt.

There were dear ones at home who are dependent upon these men for support, and it was the thought for them and thankfulness that they were still spared to work for them that these men are grateful. Ask any one of the firemen, and he will tell you that the Christmas issue of The Evening Star is his most treasured possession. He knows the future of those who might be cast helpless upon the world, and see what his answer will be. We who are citizens of this great country and residents of its capital, who are interested in all big movements for the benefit of mankind, are easily aroused, only to calm as quickly.

Another Narrow Escape.

Last May (I think it was Sunday, the 18th) there was a frightful accident in the fire at the geological survey which proved nearly fatal to some twenty members of the fire department. Men were carried to the hospital for dead, overcome by illuminating gas.

The families of these men were threatened in a similar manner as those of the ten cent store fire, but we did not think of this more than a few days. These two are not the only times where lives have been threatened or actually lost in an effort to save property. There are many more of which any intelligent fireman will tell you. He will tell you that he himself is no expert in seeking such knowledge. Yet for all the heroic deeds, such as saving property at the risk of life, there is no guarantee to those who risk their lives that their families will be provided for by an adequate pension. Every fireman's family is supposed to receive a stipulated amount at his death, but the pension fund seems to be such an uncertain thing that there is no assurance for protection.

Urges Proper Co-Operation.

Now, as citizens whose persons and property are protected through the services of the fire department while we sleep, do we not owe these men and their families not only sympathy, but an aggressive interest in their welfare which will assure them of a livelihood should the provider be cut off at any time? Let the citizens, citizens' associations, other civic bodies and individuals put forth a cooperative effort to effect some plan whereby the members of the D. C. F. D. may have an assurance of our gratitude through assistance to get what is justly their due, an adequate pension. Then we shall have a real cause for rejoicing not in the time of accident, but in the time of safety as well, and our fire force will be more efficient because a weight will have been lifted from their shoulders, and in this day of social service we have a fine opportunity for the project for the benefit of mankind.

WALTER GILLIAM.

CHANGES IN LIGHTS AND BUOYS

Lighthouse Bureau Bulletin for Fifth District Navigation Aids.

The last number of the weekly bulletin issued by the lighthouse bureau and the coast survey service contains notices regarding lights and buoys in the fifth district, as follows:

Virginia—coast—winter-quarter shoal light vessel station, characteristic of light to be changed; relief light vessel, No. 72, to be replaced by light vessel, No. 91, to be temporarily withdrawn about March 1; relief light vessel to show a double-flashing white light of about 400 candlepower every twenty seconds instead of the present characteristic, thus: first flash, two seconds; eclipse, 3 seconds; second flash, 2 seconds; eclipse, 13 seconds; illuminating apparatus will be lens lanterns at the foremast head. Relief light vessel No. 72 to sound fog signals having the same characteristics as the station vessel.

Elizabeth river—Lambert Point flats—Buoy, 34, moved December 10, about 100 yards 32 degrees into about five fathoms of water to mark junction of main channel and newly dredged cut leading to new pier, No. 4, of Norfolk and Western Railway Company.

James river—Buoys established December 15, two second-class spars in three and a quarter fathoms of water, to mark twenty-foot dredged channel recently completed immediately above Point of Shoals lighthouse.

William W. Aulick Dies.

NEW YORK, December 26.—William W. Aulick, newspaperman and magazine writer, and widely known in theatrical circles as representative of one of the big producing companies, died yesterday at Flatbush, L. I. Mr. Aulick was born in Richmond, Va., forty-one years ago. When a boy he was a page in the United States Senate.

Mr. Aulick began his newspaper career as Washington correspondent for the Minneapolis Tribune, but went to New York fifteen years ago and began work on the Evening Telegram.

**A WASTE OF TIME**

Why do they always make us wash so very carefully when they know that almost right away we'll be all black again?

**A WET DAY FOR PA!**

OUR CANNON WON'T SHOOT, BOBS, SO WE GOTTA DO SOMETHIN TO KEEP PA FROM CAPTURING US TODAY!

PA WILL BE SPRIZED WON'T HE, UNCLE BILL?

LET ER GO, GEN'RAL! LETTER GO!

HO HO!! TRYIN TA SCARE ME WITH A BUSTED OL' PIPE!

WAHOO! VIVA LA CHEE WAWA! WE WIN!

BY GARDNER

THE EVENING STORY.

HER PATIENCE.

(Copyright, 1913, by W. Warner.)

Lissa was humming happily as she stepped carefully through the narrow, dim hall to her three rooms in the rear. Her arms were filled with bundles, groceries, a new steamer and some trifles of dress that she had been wanting for a long time. Usually the shoe factory didn't let her out till 6 o'clock. But they were putting in new machinery and many of the employees went home early in the afternoon. She took advantage of the expected leisure to do some shopping. Since she had been married, she had not been out for a long time. And today was the first time in these two years she had hummed so gaily. It hadn't been pleasant to go back. In the factory they jeered—jocularly, but none the less jeered—at the girls who married and went home. Lissa was not a husband's couldn't get along with a husband's money. It argued failure on his part or hers. Lissa was proud. She had concealed that it was Harold's part—she had pretended that she wanted things that his motorist's wages wouldn't include. She would have died before telling them that Harold was a motorist. Every fireman's family is supposed to receive a stipulated amount at his death, but the pension fund seems to be such an uncertain thing that there is no assurance for protection.



THE HEARD HIS LOUD, UNPLEASANT BREATHING BEFORE SHE SAW HIM.

she had clung to him, helped him steady himself. He was a dear fellow. All he needed was a steady hand beside him. And now he didn't even need that.

"Oh!" said Lissa, suddenly. She had entered the dark bedroom to take off her hat and change to a loose gingham dress before starting supper.

She heard his loud, unpleasant breathing before she saw him. Then she made out Harold lying on the bed, sound asleep. His face was flushed, his hair disheveled and his overcoat lay on the floor where he had dropped it. And for him to be home at that time of day!

"Oh!" said Lissa, dully. She put her hat on the chair and then she went out to the kitchen.

It was an ugly kitchen. The walls were muggy, gloomy drab; the floor chipped and grayed where it was chipped. The gas stove was rusty and decrepit. The table of pine wood held the dirty breakfast dishes. She had been too late that morning to wash them. As she came in, humming, she had planned to wash them in a flash and prepare dinner. Now she stared sullenly at them. Wash them? She didn't care if they never were washed.

"My patience is gone," she said, not viciously, not even excitedly. She said it with the dull, dead tone that exhausted vitality uses. She sat there a long time it seemed. In reality it was not half an hour. What was the use of going out? It would always be the same. And she might as well leave him now. Of course, he would protest that it broke his heart for her to work and so forth. Oh, she had heard it all. She didn't feel that she could hear it again. She didn't want to talk to him again.

Presently she got up sluggishly and

VERVE AND JEU D'ESPRIT ALIEN TO INTERPRETER

That's Why the Billy Millers Failed to Appreciate Dr. Montessori.

New York Men Dance With Hired Girls and Wives With He-Gazelles.



THE SAW HER BEFORE SHE COULD STEP OUT.

curing memory of the genial, clean-eyed boy that she had married. Well, she was through—all through! She had seen her husband's face. And she had seen her own life. And she could drink and go as far down the scale as he liked. She wasn't obliged to stay and try to keep him straight. And she hated him.

Then she put on her coat and hat, absently hiding her hair first. She picked the suit case up and opened the door. When Harold awoke—which she judged would be about 6:30—he would come hesitating out to the kitchen and explain. Well, she wouldn't be there to hear. He could explain to the "dirty dishes," and then he could drink himself to death and be laid off just so often as it pleased him. She opened the front door.

And then Harold woke and strolled out, rubbing the sleep from his eyes. He saw her before she could step out and close the door behind her. "Hello, Lissa," he called. "Just getting home? You're late."

Lissa looked at him. He talked steadily and without the usual irritation of such times.

"I suppose," he grinned, "that you're thinking I've been fired again." His laugh seemed unusually tender. "Well, I'm not, but you nearly became a widow. Two cars carted together, and they tried to send me to a hospital, but I said 'Nixey.' So I got away and came home. Felt sort of weak when I saw the bed, but I'm all right now. What you got for supper? I'm hungry."

Lissa set the suit case down. And for once she blessed the dimness of the hall. He didn't see the furtive movement. She saw that he kept one hand on the wall, as though for support. "And, Lissa, I haven't told you, because I wasn't sure, and I didn't want to raise any false hopes, but I'm to be promoted. And then, by jimmies, I forbid you to work."

He took off her hat. Her heart beat fast and every few minutes it almost stopped. What if she had gone? "You get back to bed," she ordered. And then she washed the dishes in a flash.

"You seem to be awfully happy," commented Harold, a bit hurt, "from the way you're singing!"

"I always sing hard when I make biscuits," laughed Lissa.

(THE END.)

According to a statement issued by an audit company, the depositors of the Commonwealth Bank, Richmond, Va., have failed recently, will not lose anything, as they are protected by insurance carried by the bank.

Charge purchases made between now and January 1 will be billed February 1.

**J.M. Gidding & Co.**

Fifth Avenue at 46th Street NEW YORK

1510 H Street N.W. Opposite Shoreham Hotel

ARE NOW HOLDING

Their First Semi-Annual

**Clearance Sale**

At Reductions Averaging

**One-Half to One-Third**

Less Than Former Prices

Suits Coats Gowns  
Dresses Wraps Blouses

Millinery and Furs

No Sale Goods Reserved, Exchanged or Credited.

Domesticity in New York.

Business of handing bouquets to the New York husband and his charming wife. They know enough not to annoy each other.

There are tango jungles uptown in which the paying patrons are almost entirely of the fair sex and for the most part of "hoch" society. They float

in of an afternoon, dressed in a hand-ful of silk and the palls of twenty or thirty small and costly animals, and fragrant as the rose corner in a conservatory. Of course they come to dance. But it happens that very few men go to these somewhat exclusive places.

Therefore the proprietors, who, nice, slender, large-eyed he-gazelles at \$5 for the afternoon. They dance with the aristocrats to the satisfaction of the ladies and their own overduo board bills. Many times each afternoon hundreds of men turn haggard eyes upon the office clock.

Finally they slam down their desks shut, dictate a final letter while gorking to the elevator and hurry uptown to the trot courses. It is but an accident that they do not to the dancing places which are chiefly patronized by their lady wives. It merely happens that so many of these men flock into the Broadway dance restaurants that a list of those present would sound like a census of downtown New York. The management strives to please. Many pretty, little young ladies are employed at \$5 per day to dance with the before dinner bachelors.

Thus we observe that no harm has been done, and many worthy young people are kept on terms of pleasant intimacy with their boarding house keepers.

De Woody's Resignation Accepted.

The Department of Justice today accepted the resignation of C. F. De Woody as chief of the Chicago division of investigation. A. B. Bielaski, chief of the investigation bureau, had asked Mr. De Woody to remain in the service.

**Pennsylvania Avenue Saks & Company Seventh Street**

**We're Going to Cut Our Way Through This Tremendous Overcoat Stock**

—and We Have Begun Right Now

The plain truth is, this has been decidedly an "off-season" so far as Overcoat weather is concerned. Our preparations, of course, made months in advance, were based on normal conditions—which have played truant. It's best to look the facts squarely in the face. We've far too many Overcoats than we should have at the end of December. There's only one thing to do—and WE'RE GOING TO DO IT. And in doing it you're going to benefit immensely—for we shall make a reduction in price that is as unprecedented as the season itself has been.

**Overcoats Taken From the Regular \$25, \$28 and \$30 Grades, For Choice at \$16.75**

We want to sell at least 500 of them in the next day or two—and if you weigh opportunity in fairly balanced scales you'll be here bright and early to take your pick.

Blue, Oxford, Tan and Heather Chinchillas—Blue, Brown and Gray Rough-finish fabrics—Single and Double Breasted; with notch or shawl collar; belted or plain back; patch pockets or regular pockets; some lined with silk. All sizes from 33 to 44.

You've this to be sure of—that coming out of our regular stock they have all the distinctive individuality and all the perfection of fit and make which are features of Saks garments.

**Some Special Values in Boys' Clothing**

"Right out of stock" has a powerful meaning; because it at once expresses the quality and character that make Saks Boys' Clothes superior.

Boys' Blue and Gray Chinchilla Overcoats; buttoning to the neck; checked lining; belt all around, and silk-embroidered emblem on sleeve. Sizes 2½ to 10 years. **Regular \$5 values. \$3.65**

Boys' Fancy Cheviot Norfolk Suits; some with one, others with two pairs of Knickerbockers. Brown and Dark Gray effects. Sizes 9 to 17 years. **Regular \$4 values. \$2.65**

Boys' Star Blouse Waists and Shirts; all neat effects. The Blouse Waists are in sizes from 7 to 16 years. The Shirts are in sizes from 12½ to 14. **Regular \$1 and \$1.50 65c**

**Heavy Underwear Is Hard Hit**

The same weather condition that retarded the sale of Overcoats has had its effect upon heavy Underwear as well—and we're going to "cut that loose," too.

Cotton and Wool, in Gray and Bal-briggan—both medium and heavy weight. The best makes; the most carefully fashioned and finished garments—Shirts: 34 to 50. Drawers: 30 to 50.

**\$1.00 and \$1.50 Grades Choice: 79c**

**Special Sale of Men's Shirts**

We've gathered into one lot all the Shirts that have become broken in size by the holiday demand — Fancy and White—Stiff-bosom; Plain-bosom; and Plaited-bosom—Madras, Cheviot, Silk and Linen. Each pattern is a desirable one; each Shirt is the best value its original price can buy. Some have laundered; others soft cuffs—all attached. While the sizes are broken there's quite every size included in the whole assortment.

**Values Up to \$3.00 Choice: 95c**

**Domet Night Shirts**

The kind that is full-cut and proper length; in neat patterns and colors; carefully finished in every detail. Sizes 15 to 20.

**Regular \$1.00 Grade 69c—3 for \$2**

**Special Sale of Sweaters**

These are all high-grade Sweaters, with practically all sizes—Angora, Cardigan-stitch and Shakers; in the most desirable colors—some with, others without collars.

**Regular \$4 to \$7.50 Grades Choice: \$2.95**